

**RENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION BY
CERTAIN INTERIOR DESIGNERS**

CHAPTER 825

H.B. No. 1657

AN ACT

relating to the renewal of a certificate of registration by certain interior designers.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 1051.351(c-1), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a person who holds a certificate of registration issued under Chapter 1053 without examination may not renew the certificate on or after September 1, 2027 [2017], unless, before September 1, 2027 [2017], the person has passed the registration examination adopted by the board under Section 1053.154 and in effect on January 1, 2014. This subsection expires January 1, 2029 [2019].

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on April 20, 2017: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 24, 2017: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Approved June 15, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

**LICENSING AND REGULATION OF A JOURNEYMAN
INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN**

CHAPTER 826

H.B. No. 1698

AN ACT

relating to the licensing and regulation of a journeyman industrial electrician.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 1305.002, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (11-b) to read as follows:

(11-b) "Journeyman industrial electrician" means an individual who engages in electrical work exclusively at a business that operates a chemical plant, petrochemical plant, refinery, natural gas plant, natural gas treating plant, pipeline, or oil and gas exploration and production operation.

SECTION 2. Section 1305.102(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The commission [~~executive director~~] shall adopt rules for the licensing of electricians, sign electricians, electrical sign contractors, electrical contractors, *journeyman industrial electricians*, journeyman linemen, residential appliance installers, and residential appliance installation contractors as prescribed by this chapter.

SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 1305, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1305.1601 to read as follows:

Sec. 1305.1601. JOURNEYMAN INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN. An applicant for a license as a journeyman industrial electrician must:

(1) *have at least 8,000 hours of on-the-job training as a licensed electrical apprentice under the supervision of a master electrician; and*

(2) *pass a journeyman industrial electrician examination administered under this chapter.*

SECTION 4. Section 1305.162, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(e) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), an examination required for a license as a journeyman industrial electrician under Section 1305.1601 may only test an applicant regarding activities performed by a journeyman industrial electrician at a location described by Section 1305.002(11-b).

SECTION 5. Section 1305.168(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) To renew a master electrician, journeyman electrician, master sign electrician, journeyman sign electrician, maintenance electrician, *journeyman industrial electrician*, journeyman lineman, or residential wireman license, the license holder must complete four hours of continuing education annually.

SECTION 6. Not later than September 1, 2018, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt rules as required by Section 1305.102, Occupations Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on April 26, 2017: Yeas 143, Nays 2, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 24, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 15, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

TERRITORY OF COUNTY ASSISTANCE DISTRICTS

CHAPTER 827

H.B. No. 1716

AN ACT

relating to territory of county assistance districts.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 387.003, Local Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (k) to read as follows:

(a) The commissioners court of the county may call an election on the question of creating a county assistance district under this chapter. More than one county assistance district may be created in a county. *A district may consist of noncontiguous tracts.*

(k) A district annexing territory under this section may annex territory that is not adjacent or contiguous to the district.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on May 4, 2017: Yeas 141, Nays 2, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 24, 2017: Yeas 29, Nays 2.

Approved June 15, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

ELECTION OFFICERS AND PRACTICES; INCREASING A CRIMINAL PENALTY; CREATING A CRIMINAL OFFENSE

CHAPTER 828

H.B. No. 1735

AN ACT

relating to election officers and practices; increasing a criminal penalty; creating a criminal offense.